Current Technology Project Summary 2008-2009

The Technology Department works with other departments on a project basis. Listed below are the current projects that are being addressed by the Technology Department along with a status indicator.

Orthophotography:

Every four years a fly over to photograph the county is done for GIS. An RFQ has been issued by a nine county consortium which Catawba County is a member and they are close to choosing a vendor. The photos will be taken in the January to March timeframe when there is minimum foliage on the trees. In addition to the regular orthos, we will also be taking oblique photos to give us side angle views of buildings. This will be used to enhance services like planning and public safety. Target date has not been set and is based on contract negotiations and fly over date.

10%	6 Complete
On	Budget
On	Time

Permit Center Application Replacement

The current Tidemark system used for permitting and inspections is over 10 years old and cannot provide the services that are expected by the building community. The current software cannot be modified to to provide these services and is not supported for upgrade by the vendor. Funding has been approved to replace the system. An RFP has been released and bids have been received for replacement of the Tidemark system. The project team had face-to-face interviews with three companies. The project team made several onsite visits to research the perspective vendors. The team is in the process of reviewing those presentations and preparing a recommendation. A programmer analyst has been hired to work on the project and came onboard August 29th. Target date has not been set and is based on contract negotiations and conversion timeframe for specific vendor.

10% Complete
On Budget
On Time

SharePoint Services

At the July Department Head meeting, it was decided to add SharePoint services to our existing Office platform. The main purpose for using SharePoint was to provide a place for collaboration and at the same time have a common storage area for institutional knowledge. Since this is a service that will continually grow as the organization produces new documents and updates past documents, the planning of its structure is critical. To address this, training is being scheduled for Technology staff. A design team has been created and a plan for implementation is being developed. The first phase of the plan is to move the SharePoint onto a production server. This has been completed and is available for use but training will need to be provided for all users that are creating and managing a site. While many of the features are very easy to use and tie closely to Office, it is important that sites are set up correctly and that security is set properly to allow the correct users of the site proper access to information.

10% Complete
On Budget
On Time



Web Site Redesign: In coordination with the Public Information Officer, the current Catawba County web site was evaluated and is being upgraded to offer new services to the public. The Technology Department is working with each department to review the services that each department offers and how to best present those services to the public. The changes are incorporating many of the Web 2.0 design concepts. Along with this redesign, Catawba County is opening a presence on some Web 2.0 services including Facebook and Youtube. Due to the dynamic nature of the web site, work will continue indefinitely on this project.

50% Complete
On Budget
On Time



Web Site Redesign Note: While the web site has been redesigned, it is very dynamic and will constantly be updated and redesigned. Recent additions include RSS feeds for job posting and podcasting of weekly news reports and public information announcements.

PeopleSoft Enterprise Initiative: The County has made a significant investment in PeopleSoft. In order to maximize that investment, the County is moving appropriate business processes and functions to PeopleSoft. Projects to date revolve around Human Resources and Finance but this initiative expands the use to broader categories including the Critical Care Special Needs Database Project. Since this project is constantly being redefined, no completion date is set.

PeopleSoft Enterprise Initiative: Special Needs/ Critical Care Database Project: Multiple departments have been maintaining either a special needs database or a critical care database. There were six databases with essentially the same data in each one. With so many points of entry, consistent reliable data was almost impossible. In this project, one database is being created that any of the departments can add or modify the data and those changes will be shared. This project is built on the "enter once use many concept".

·										
90% Complete On Budget On Time										
PeopleSoft Enterprise Initia Workflow for Financials and F							: lm	plem	ent F	PeopleSoft
20% Complete On Budget On Time										
PeopleSoft Enterprise Initexpense reporting for all empose reporting for all empose reporting for all empose reported. Programminal project of the project o	oloyees trang is in fir	acking nal ap	g tim prova	e in l al sta	Peop atus.	lesof Test	t. All grou	sped ps w	cifica ill be	tions have using the
80% Complete On Budget On Time										
Infrastructure Upgrade: Proof failure in the system. The county to the Government Ce	nis will co	nsist	of a	wire	less	brid	ge fro	om c	ne s	ide of the
90% Complete On Budget On Time										

Computer Replacement: Replace 20 percent of the desktop and notebook computers, excluding DHR agencies, to maintain compatibility with other agencies and software

standards.

30% Complete

On Budget On Time

Tax Mapping Project: Development of a new tax mapping application to replace the existing application currently used by the Tax Mapping Staff. This is necessary because of the format for storing this type of data has changed and our current format will eventually not be supported. Implementation now scheduled for April 2009

40% Complete
On Budget
On Time



Unified Electronic Payment Processing System: Some departments currently have the ability to accept credit/debit cards or other electronic payment forms. Other departments do not have this ability and would be interested in this feature. Department heads were given an evaluation of the viability of putting in place a unified payment system that the entire enterprise can benefit from. This would reduce costs and increase availability to our consumers. This project will be a phased in approach. Target Dates: Vendor selection: January 2008. Interface initiated: May 2008. Online Payments began: July 2008. Automated updating of all records: December 2008. Vendor selected. Requirement gathering in progress. Complete in Tax and Permitting areas. Equipment ordered for Register of Deeds.

60% Complete
On Budget
On Time



School Surveillance by Sheriff's Department: Several schools throughout Catawba County have surveillance systems that are accessible via the Internet. The Sheriff's department could more fully respond to incidents at schools if they had access to the surveillance systems. This project is designed to give video access to schools that have the required technology installed. A grant was secured to expand the functionality of the existing wireless infrastructure. Installing wireless access points at schools, improving wireless access in the SWAT vehicle and improving the camera systems with partnered school systems.

Target Production Date: July 2009.

30% Complete
On Budget
On Time



800 MHZ VIPER SYSTEM: This project is to enhance our ability to talk to Public Safety officials in our county and surrounding counties. We have coverage issues in the county

with the current VHF system that must be addressed. Viper is already established here and the build out of tower sites is taking place in our area. By partnering with the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, Catawba County can upgrade it communications system using the infrastructure provided by the state. Target Date: Open at this time due to funding.

E0/ Complete		 				
5% Complete					1	
On Budget						
On Time						

VisionMobile and AVL for Emergency Vehicles: Catawba County has been using VisionAir products since March 1998. Catawba County is currently utilizing VisionAIR Computer Aided Dispatch, Records Management System, Field Based Reporting, Fire Service Management, GeoLynx Mapping, and the Jail Management System.

VisionAIR mobile enhances our current investment by enabling the flow of information to and from units in the field. In addition to data and reports, it incoporates GPS tracking with Automated Vehicle Locating(AVL). Units can then be dispatched based on the closest available unit as opposed to the current base dispatched method. Once dispatched, call information will be sent to the unit's onboard computer with adress and mapping directions for the incident.

Catawba County will benefit from this purchase in the following way:

- Increase Officer Safety using GPS and AVL technologies
- Improve Response Times by having visual maps of the nearest Public Safety Units
- Improve Response Times by sending information of dispatched calls to the Public Safety Units
- Delivers valuable information to Public Safety laptops from existing databases
- (warrants, criminal history, hazmat,etc.)
- Officer's can enter reports directly from the field

VisionMOBILE is designed to fully enhance the VisionAIR Public Safety Suite that Catawba County currenty uses and transform the Catawba County's Public Safety division into a mobile platform.

10% Complete						
10 /6 Complete					1	
On Budget						
			l			
On Time						